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5. Ambassador's role in development of USDA Program activities and objectives.

The Ambassador is interested in any program or activities which affect U. S.-Mexican relations. While USDA programs in operation in Mexico are primarily for the purpose of protecting U. S. agricultural and livestock industries and are an extension of U. S. D. A. domestic programs, they play an important part in total U. S. Government operations in Mexico. These programs will be closely coordinated by the Agricultural Attache with the Ambassador.

6. Regulations and guidelines covering State/Agriculture Relations.

Operational guidelines and regulations (noted in par. 2) will be kept under continuous review. Prior to the development and implementation of any major procedural changes, the Ambassador or the DCM will be consulted by the Agricultural Attache.

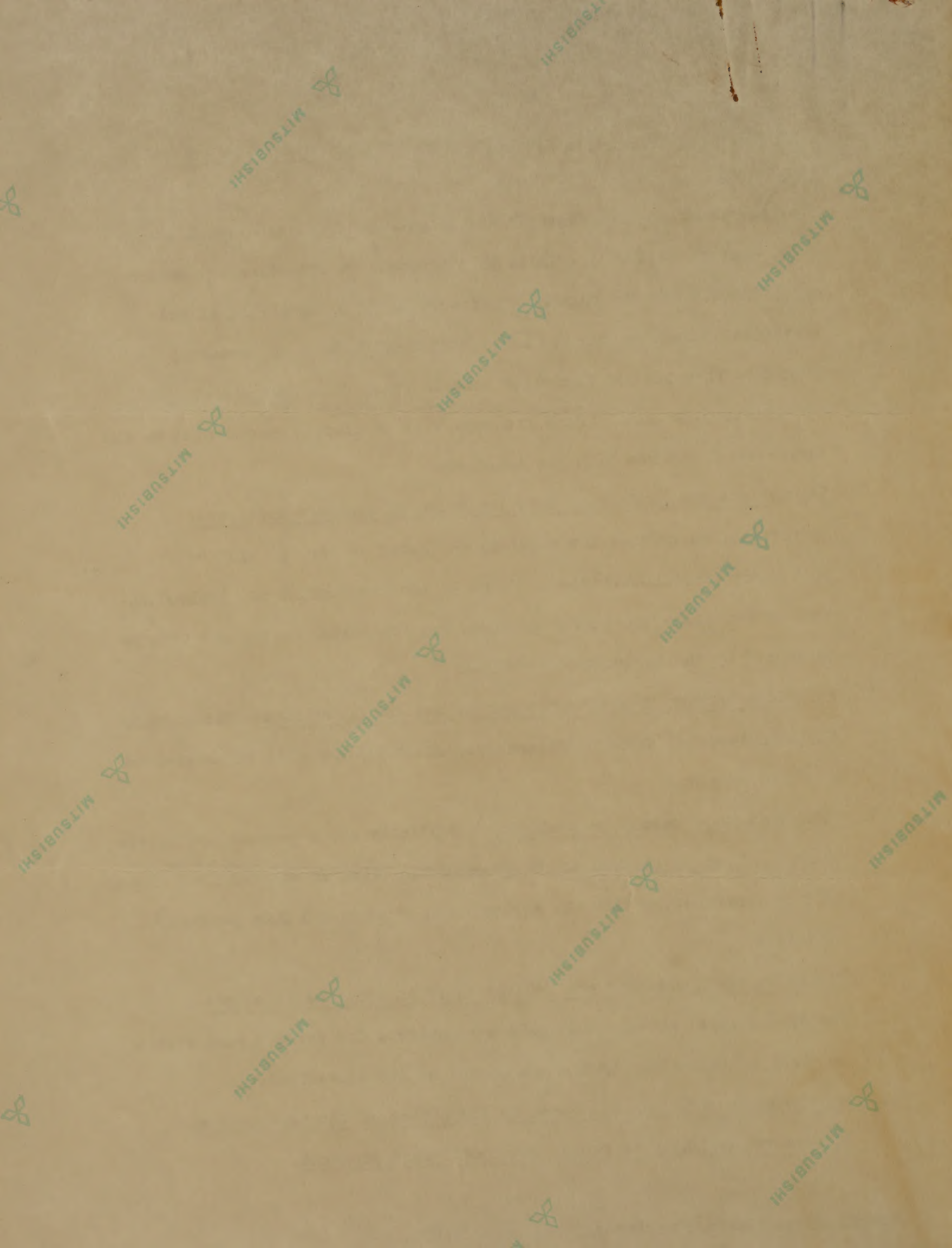
7. Relations between USDA action programs and the Consulates. Recognizing the importance of these relationships, close liaison will be maintained on these programs.

8. USDA/USIS relationship on publicity. Publicity about program activities which need not be cleared in USDA/Washington, will be disseminated through USIS in coordination with the Agricultural Attache and USDA program officials.

9. Visits by the Ambassador and Embassy staff to USDA installations.

The Agricultural Attache will make arrangements for twice a year visits to these installations by the Ambassador at his convenience.

10. USDA program officials will meet in the office of the Agricultural Attache periodically to review the coordinated programs.



SCREWORM

Authority

Agreement with Mexican Government; Public Law 8, as amended July 27, 1966 (P.L. 89-521).

Objective

To assist in the maintenance of an effective screwworm barrier between the United States and Mexico to prevent the pest from again becoming established in the U. S.

Program Progress

The United States was declared free of self-sustaining populations of screwworms in May 1966. A barrier is maintained along the Mexico-United States border by the strategic distribution of sterile screwworm flies, to prevent reinfestation. A detection program is conducted in northern Mexico to determine where sterile flies can best be utilized to reduce populations of the screwworm. This program has contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the barrier.

On the basis of information gained from a survey conducted in Mexico in 1966, consideration is now being given to the feasibility of eradicating the screwworm from areas of Mexico north of the Isthmus of Tehauntepec. This would permit moving the barrier zone south to the Isthmus. There it would be only 200 miles long as opposed to the present 2,000 mile zone, and could be maintained at much less cost.

Scope of Program

Costs of program in fiscal year 1967: To U. S. - \$255,650; to Mexico - \$88,000.

Personnel: United States 31 (11 U. S. citizens, 20 Mexican Nationals).

